

# DEAF-MUTE'S JOURNAL.

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"There are more men ennobled by reading than by nature."

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## "GIB" — MORT I

By J. FREDERICK MEAGHER, INSTALL-  
MENT II

### GIBS STEPS OUT OF THE PICTURE

Gibson, the happy-hearted, steps out of our ranks today; Genial, gifted Gibson has drifted afar away. Gone are the golden, golden days when his head was high; Gone is the gladness, gleaming glint in his honest eye; Stilled are the sturdy shoulders that carried a giant's part—Ghosts of a grin oft hiding the hurts in his high, high heart. Faithful Father of Fratdom—our Miracle Man, they say—Gib steps out of the picture forever and ever and aye.

Our frail frat frigate has weathered the storms of some thirty years With Gibson, the happy helmsman, commanding our hopes and fears. Did he lie his nest for the future or scheme for an age of ease, As he bailed out of his leaking dory—a sailing uncharted seas?

He followed his honest compass when the winds of temptation blew; He conquered with clever cutlass a crafty and cut-throat crew. Gibson, our great commander—avoiding the reef and wreck—Sailing into the harbor, drops dead on his quarter deck!

When Francis P. Gibson, the world's greatest deaf-mute, died unexpectedly in St. Luke's Hospital at 8:05 Wednesday morning, December 4, 1929—following an operation the day before for hernia and gall-stones—the old insurance-genius proved the truth of his own life-preachment: "You never can tell what will happen."

Punctually at 8:30 that morning Grand Secretary-Treasurer Arthur L. Roberts arrived at his headquarters desk in Chicago's loop canyons. There was a phone message for him from the hospital: "Come at once, seriously."

For perhaps the first time in his systematic and well-ordered life, our cool-headed little financier frantically shoved a neat pile of letters aside and dashed for the door. A taxi soon brought him to St. Luke's. Ascending alone to room 611, he surveyed the four beds.

Three were empty. A screen hid the fourth. He was alone. Roberts approached the screen slowly. A tell-tale sheet hid some big body. Seemed strange they had removed Gibson to another room since his last visit yesterday. He started out, then across the hall Bobs suddenly observed young Don Gibson and his bride of a few months ministering to the weeping widow of our Grand Old Frat.

Bobs stood in a daze. Slowly a terrible suspicion penetrated his whirling brain. Terrified, he stole back on tip-toe to the still form behind that screen. With trembling hand he slowly withdrew the concealing sheet.

Could that be the face of Francis P. Gibson?

Not the kindly, smiling, supremely-human face we knew and loved. It was the face of a fighter—fighting to the bitter end against death and the restraining hands of doctors, nurses and his family. He perished in a delirious battle to get up and return to his desk.

Now the face of a fighter is not a beautiful thing to see. Especially in death. Horatius at the bridge; Mollie Pitcher at Concord; Alvin York in Flanders; Jack Dempsey arising against Firpo; and Francis P. Gibson keeping his rendezvous with death! They were faces no artist could possibly transpose to canvas in all their grisly, grim reality. All the smouldering fires of indomitable souls surging to the surface in one superhuman effort—the grand, glorious, heroic outburst of a lone wolf fighting hopeless odds.

Popular paintings picture such heroes as fighting off death with a smile Huh! No dead-game warrior ever smiled as he sallied out to smash into the crisis of his career. And good old Gib died game.

Roberts felt the face. It was still warm.

Trembling, sick at heart, he put back the sheet.

Dizzy and dopey, Roberts hurried back to headquarters, where he galvanized the force into a spurt of tremendous activity. Anything was better than mutely musing on the sudden tragedy. Telegrams—some 175 in all—were instantly dispatched to every division and to prominent deaf and hearing parties. Both doors of Gibson's office were reverently, softly closed. Softly—without the least jar—

as if not to arouse or annoy the mighty spirit which must be somewhere hovering there. Seeing—but unseen. The headquarters forces were three highly-educated and intelligent men and a capable typist; they knew all about the insurance game. Life-expectancy, rate of interest, accuracy and lapsation-ratio—all, all could be figured out by rule-of-thumb to the minutest fraction. There was not a thing connected with insurance, high or low, that they did not know—except this one question: *Where do our spirits go from here?*

Gib died at 8:05—8:05—8:05—man alive, don't you get it? Why, that's the very minute his train was due to cross the frontiers of Evanston and steam through the raw lake wind into Chicago. Even in dying, "Gib kept to his daily schedule.

Tread softly. The spirit of Francis P. Gibson might be with them even then. And—blind, blind, they could not see.

Mrs. Gibson set the funeral for one o'clock Saturday afternoon and assigned the venerable patriarch of all Deafdom—the Rev. Philip J. Hasenstab, of the Methodist Episcopal mission—to conduct it. A large chapel was engaged a block from the famed Wilson Avenue "L" in D. W. Griffith's films.

Thursday and Friday the big headquarters office was giving nearly all its time to receiving for telegrams and assigning contracts for floral tributes from divisions and individuals as directed by wire. The four of the force were still creeping around on swed tip-toe. It must be a hideous nightmare; big, burly, bluff and breezy Gib couldn't really be dead, could he?

At any moment he would open his door and breeze briskly out—amazingly light for one of his size and weight; and breeze slightly sideways in perplexity; the old half-twisted smile beaming brotherly beatitudes.

Saturday dawned—and what a dawn. "It was probably the darkest day in Chicago's history," said the official weather forecaster. At 10 o'clock it was black as midnight, and the amount of electrical current rose to the evening peak-load level—813,000 kilowatts. "Smog," a combination of clouds, fog and the customary smoke-screen, necessitated full street lights all over Chicago. What a tribute Nature provided for our great one. "Black Saturday," the papers called it. It was—for us.

Around noon, a brief but heavy snowstorm relieved the condition. But it was still far, far too murky to permit any photographs of the funeral.

We garland him with flowered frills—Fair flowers, row on rows. He'd just ascended higher hills Than even Denver knows.

The pastor renders Psalm 23. "He leadeth me in green pastures beside the still water. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." Goodness did. Ah, if you only knew all I know of Gib.

He is reading St. John 14: "In my Father's house are many mansions, I go to prepare a place for you." Even as Gib prepared a place down here for many a deaf widow who would otherwise be destitute.

The ruddy, schoolboy complexion of the venerable Hasenstab—fringed with snow-white sideburns—resembles some Old Master's conception of an ancient saint. Beaming a benediction and a belief in life beyond the grave, his smoothly punctuated sign-delivery struck home with ringing force.

Fully 250 silents either swarmed the front parlor, or tried to peer through the windows from the sidewalk, standing outside in the cold snow. (For the benefit of these, Mr. Gus Hyman presently relayed the services as interpreted in the clear, ringing voice of the Rev. Mrs. Constance Elmes.)

Present were all past Grand Presidents—Kleinmans, Bristol and Anderson—for the first of them all, Peter Hellers, of Detroit, certificate number one. Vice-president Neesam from Delavan, and Shilton from Toronto (Canada) were here, as were Chicago trustees Leiter, Barrow and Flick. Only Mueller, of Louisville, and Howson, of Berkeley, were absent from the Grand roster.

The chapel walls are garlanded solid with floral tributes, suspended from the picture moulding, and the rear ante-room is piled deep with the last arrivals. Surrounding by an immense mass of beautiful blooms lies our

Grand Old Frat. The expensive silken casket lies open, revealing the wan, worn, jaundiced features.

The undertaker has succeeded in restoring a semblance of Gibson's usual joyous expression. There is a faint trace of the well-loved, genial, gladsome grin.

Just as in life—collected, calm we found him, Dean of the Deaf, loved leader of his race; Now, with death's darkened shadows gathered round him.

The same sad smile still frozen on his face.

Seating arrangements seem on a first-come-first-served basis. In the pitifully inadequate pews are numerous nondescripts, and even a few outright enemies of the deceased, while lifelong friends and allies are henceforth obliged to stamp their feet in the cold outside. Charles Kemp, for nine years Gib's confidential clerk, and that pretty little typist (hearing) who has taken most of Gib's letters for about the same length of time, are among the shut-outs in the snow.

Talk about justice. This is a queer world sometimes.

The two pews reserved for the widow and family-friends prove insufficient just before the service starts. Thereon Roberts, Barrow and other pallbearers courteously surrender their pews and stand in the rear ante-room throughout. Missing most of the sign-service, of course.

Was there ever such a triumphal outpouring in tribute to a deaf-mute? Our young-old leader would have appreciated some such kindly local consideration in life. "A prophet is never without honor—save in his own town," you know.

One o'clock. For once in history a Chicago affair starts right on the dot. The benevolent and benign Hasenstab and his hearing daughter, the Rev. Constance Elmes, are prepared to proceed with the last sad rites. But where is the pulpit? "We never needed any," says the surprised undertaker. "The pastorate always stands right by the casket, on floor level, of course, being up in the air won't make your voice any plainer."

"But these mourners are all deaf; they must see, don't you see?"

It is not quite plain to the puzzled mortician—but, anxious to please, he hastily brings a box and arranges a make-shift pulpit, about sixteen inches high. How typical of Gib—even in death, difficulties and obstacles block his pathway.

Promptly at 1:04 the service starts.

Miss Cora Jacobs, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, sign-sings: "Abide With Me, Fast Falls the Eventide." Right behind her abides all that is mortal of the world's greatest deaf-mute, on whom the shades of eventide have suddenly fallen. A week ago at this hour he was back from lunch, starting his last four-hour clean-up of his pathway.

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Will the sermon never end? That face just behind the patient old patriarch distracts our attention... Gib's face. And yet it is not Gib. Plain proofreader—back in '03—me still in school—kid figurehead-president of crazy schoolboy "pipe-dream"—David and Goliath over again; David routed the grafters. That same Gib?... Just a plain proofreader took over a busted treasury twenty-six and one half years ago—fought and schemed and stacked his cards against enemies both without and within—leaves it a Million Dollar Monument for the Miracle Man of Mutedom. Sing the Saga. Stretching a shoestring into a fortune. But not for himself.

His widow will get her policy—and then she can starve for all we care, I guess. If he had worked for himself instead of for us—what a difference.

Can it really be "30" for the old proofreader—who rose to become Emperor of the Eminent Enterprise?

"Thirty" is printer-code for the end of the story—put the paper to bed.

Only last Saturday, November 30th (there goes that numeral again) at this hour he was back from lunch, starting his last four-hour stretch—the last—very last—of thousands and thousands of hours on the same old grind. He leaves a million dollars—yet he hardly left a cent for his widow. His life is now "ringed 30"—he put "30" on his career on the 30th. And he has "taken the paper to bed" with him.

He pockets his patient pencil And shelters his sharpened shears, Oh, he heaves a sigh As he bids good-bye To the labor of thirty years!

Will coming generations of Deafdom celebrate August 6th, his birthday? Or December 4th, his death? Just as we do December 10—Gallaudet's birthday? November 30th seems preferable—it's very significance seems to smash one between the eyes.

It is now 1:36. The sermon ends with the quiet motions: "The frats can safely go ahead following Gibson's blazed trail with God's guidance." A sudden united sigh of relief from the

young lady gladly complied, and with fingers on the piano-top to catch the vibration, Gib "listened" until great tears rolled down his honest old cheeks.

It was the last music, the last song, he ever heard.

Unless he hears it now—wherever he is—looking down on us mutes, mute in sorrow.

Rev. Hasenstab now proceeds with the burial service itself. "With the sudden sad passing of Francis P. Gibson," he begins, "We learn how unstable and mutable is life. Like deaf Beethoven, Gibson sang a Symphony of Service to the Silent." He goes into brief detail: "The Gibsons have been married thirty-seven years; theirs was a blissfully ideal union, an example and inspiration of congenital constancy. One child came to gladden the couple, and..." He proceeds in characteristic Hasenstab style, gracefully jerky sign-sentences rapidly delivered, punctuating each sentence with a gasp-pause to let the purport sink in. The air is suffocatingly heavy with the aroma of expensive blossoms—like some low-roofed greenhouse. Heads seem to blur; that genial face in vivid contrast to the white satin background of the raised lid, draws our attention from the parson as though by a magnet. Wish I had a glass of cold water.

With unwearied arms, the saintly Hasenstab continues: "...Gallaudet College awarded the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1928 to him who enjoyed but a common-school education..." You catch a word, here and there, in the kaleidoscopic jumble through weary eyelids.

The parson runs endlessly on, swiftly and smoothly; just a plain recital of known facts—none of the "I came to bury Caesar, not to praise him" grand-stand style of oratory. It is so plain and simple that it hurts. That sinking in the pit of your stomach as you watch them chalk up falling prices on the Wall Street board; that dizzy, helpless lassitude just before the last of a thousand boxing gloves knocks you into merciful unconsciousness; the bursting in your head when carbon fumes from the running motor in your closed garage begin to act. I've known them all. It seems like that today.

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150 sardined mourners causes maiden-fair bouquets above us to waft gently too-and-fro. The only moving thing for endless seconds. Gallaudet; Laurent Clerc; Gibson!

Frat. In whose behalf I battled these long, bitter years. Lacking his glasses, he looks younger than his fifty-nine winters. The high patriarch brow stands out in bold relief. (Wonder if they replaced the tremendous brain and stout heart, which had been removed for autopsy to determine cause of death? "Heart o' Gold," I called it in one Denver poem—it was the heart killed him; blood-clot.) Plainly dressed, only a small gold-plated frat button on his lapel, and the gold gift-ring with the same emblem will distinguish his bones when—centuries hence—whatever race then rules this original land of the Redskin shall earth him in its historical and archaeological explorations. Only those two enameled emblems to endure throughout the ages—will the archaeologists recognize him therefrom as the King Tut of a downtrodden people, way back in the unenlightened ages of the Twentieth Century?

Rev. Hasenstab prays. A fervent prayer. That drawn, jaundiced, yellow face vividly contrasted by the cool white satin pillow—in just a few moments now will forever be shut from the light of day.

Forever and ever, world without end.

Mrs. Meagher sign-sings: "Oh, Love That Will Not Let Me Go" (The Christian Life.) Gibson and she were schoolmates, nearly half-a-century ago, in the little old Chicago Day School. Only Gibson and herself, of all the bunch, have risen above dull mediocrity. Many the tales this past third vice-president of the National Association of the Deaf could tell of the long ago, when Gibson was just a bubbling boy full of quaint conceits and queer quirks—with nothing to indicate he would one day become our greatest of the great. "He often pulled my pig-tails—all the boys did—but Gibson was one of the few who never yanked hard enough to hurt."

And now the little German immigrant renders her last service to her schoolmate.

Time, 1:42: Rev. Hasenstab now proceeds with the burial service itself.

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EDWIN A. HODGSON, *Editor.*

The Deaf-Mutes' JOURNAL (published by the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, at 163rd Street and Fort Washington Avenue) is issued every Thursday; it is the best paper for deaf-mutes published; it contains the latest news and correspondence; the best writers contribute to it.

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Station M. New York City.

"He's true to God who's true to man;  
Whenever wrong is done  
To the humblest and the weakest  
Neath the all-befolding sun,  
That wrong is also done to us,  
And they are slaves most base,  
Whose love of right is for themselves,  
And not for all the race."

*Notice concerning the whereabouts of individuals will be charged at the rate of rents a line.*

*Specimen copies sent to any address on receipt of five cents.*

Among the hundreds of greeting cards sent to the editor during the Christmastide, there are several of original prose sentiment that would gladly be published were the space available. Poetical effusions were many, but only a few were original. Our Pennsylvania friend, George M. Teegarden, who is lavishly gifted with the divine afflatus, contributes a card with the following verses:

"The Season brings us joy supreme,

With rapture it is glowing

With faith that love is infinite

And golden streams a-flowing

A shining Star is oft his guide

Who journeys forth at eventide.

"A gladsome tone is good to hear

As we onward thread our way—

Ah, let the song of love sweep by,

Be it hopeful, sweet and gay,

So friend pass on the wondrous tale,

With cheerful speech and kindly hail."

George William Veditz, the prolific writer and fighter for the deaf, whose floral demesne is in the shadow of Pike's Peak, Colorado, scribbles on back of his Christmas Card of Greeting:

"Wae hael, Old Top! and every kind of Christmas cheer!"

"When shall we two meet again?  
In thunder, lightning or in rain?  
Or in the splendor of Pike's Peak?  
To bring those old times back again?"

We embrace this occasion to tell the deaf of the world that unstinted thanks for their kind remembrances go out to them for the kindly words their numerous messages contain, making the dun grey sanctum of the editor to glow with unwonted glory. God bless them all, and bring them happiness and joy throughout the year to come.

JOURNAL READERS will probably excuse the omission of some news this week, as Christmas Day requires earlier publication to get the paper off on time. It falls on our regular mailing day, when the Post Office people, like the rest of us, want to have a day off in which to make merry. Next week a like condition must be observed, in order that New Year's Day be properly celebrated. During the year 1930, the same regularity as has marked previous years will be scrupulously adhered to.

The past twelve months have been marked with general prosperity of the deaf as well as the hearing, and this prosperity has been good to the Deaf-Mutes' JOURNAL, which has faithfully chronicled all the news of any importance that has occurred to affect the happiness or welfare of the "silent class." May good fortune in the coming year smile on every one of you!

ACCORDING to a New York daily newspaper, deputy sheriffs of the Shark River archipelago of Ten Thousand Islands, an uncharted area of land, water and mangrove swamp, on the southwest coast of Florida, are searching for an ex-convict, one of whose crimes was cutting the throat of a deaf-mute, named James Hamilton, by

## GALLAUDET COLLEGE

## OMAHA

Exams! Exams! Exams! Is there ever a time in the life of a college student when he behaves more ridiculously than during the week of term examinations? He does things voluntarily that he never dreams of doing at any other time. He gets up at four-thirty instead of the usual seven-fifteen, and goes to bed at some unearthly hour instead of getting his regular beauty nap. And on top of all that he gets gray-haired worrying over the results of his examinations. He loses his appetite, he becomes haggard and wan and develops dark circles beneath the eyes. By the time the week of examinations is over, he is a physical and mental wreck and he needs every moment of the next two weeks to recuperate.

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The Midwest chapter held its annual public meeting in the N. S. D. auditorium, Saturday evening, December 7th. Dr. J. Schuyler Long opened the program with a talk on "The Deaf of Other Days," and as usual received the close attention of all. Next came a play called "The Tempest in a Teapot," arranged by Mrs. Ota C. Blankenship, and considering the fact no rehearsal was held, it was a gratifying success. The "tempest" raged between Brazil and Argentina, with a court scene as the setting. Witnesses for the two countries were as follows:

For Brazil: Paraguay, Mrs. Ota C. Blankenship; Venezuela, Leo. R. Holway; Uruguay, Mrs. Harry G. Long; Peru, Mrs. F. Arthur Clayton. For Argentina: Bolivia, Robert W. Mullin; Guiana, Mrs. Ziba L. Osmun; Chile, Mrs. Emma Seely; Ecuador, Mrs. John E. Probert.

Colombia (neutral) Mrs. Oscar M. Treuke. His Honor, the Judge—Harry G. Long. Constable—Millard Bilger. Clerk of the Court—James R. Jelinek. Lawyers—T. Scott Cuscaher for Argentina, and Emil Henriksen for Brazil. Each one was punished and required to either dance, sing, or tell a joke. Mrs. Clayton was the only one, who really "sang," with "Little Orphant Annie," in this very coquettish manner. Mrs. Blankenship gave a good monologue. The judge was disguised with the arguments advanced and left without giving a verdict. Eugene Fry, as Andy Gump, in a splendid disguise, advanced to the stage and gave the "optime" a good address, chock full of epigram. Owen Study, with his original slang signs made an A1 interpreter, or at least he gave that impression. Suddenly from behind the curtains appeared the "cook," who announced "Soup's on." It was none other than the jolly Robert W. Mullin attired in a gingham house dress, sans trousers, displaying socks and garters and bare legs. This finished Andy's speech. There was nothing slow about Mrs. Fry's impersonation of Andy Gump. They repeated the performance, Monday evening, December 16th, at the Iowa school, on invitation of the Literary Society there, and we have that they did much better and before a more appreciative audience as a number of teachers were present. For some time past the O. W. L. S. of the Midwest Chapter have been selling chances, at ten cents per, on a handsome wicker lamp, donated by Miss Grace Evans. At the close of the Omaha program, the drawing took place, with little Betty Gomme picking out the lucky number, which went to Norman Scarvie. Over fifteen dollars were realized, which will go to the O. W. L. S. scholarship fund of Gallaudet College.

Saturday morning, December 21st, the students gathered in Chapel Hall, and took their seats with quaking hearts and trembling knees, or their fate was now to be decided. President Hall read the list of students who had passed in all their subjects, causing both rejoicing and sorrow.

After Chapel, the students amused themselves in various ways. Some spent their time doing all the work they had left undone during the examination week. They washed, ironed, scrubbed, polished and dusted to their heart's content, at least that is what the young ladies did.

We entertain grave doubts of the ability of the young men to do these things, much less enjoy them. What the young men did that morning we do not know, but we are certain that a large percent of them made for the theatres of the city during the afternoon. The girls went shopping almost in a body during the afternoon. Some went to shows, others stopped off to satisfy their appetites, and still others were of the crowds, who were continually mashing their toes, and came back home. At any rate, they were all here safe and sound by supper time.

The Sophomore class decided to make merry that night. A class party had been scheduled for them, and they were eager to start the fun. The girls were in charge of the entertainments. The girls of the Sophomore Class have long dubbed themselves the "S.S.S.C.," and on this memorable night they intended to initiate the boys to that sacred secret order.

After the initiation everybody gathered around the open fireplace and while waiting for refreshments, each person did something to entertain the others. Punch and sandwiches and cookies were served at about nine-thirty. After that there was dancing until ten o'clock when the boys took their leave. Two of the young gentlemen were gallant enough to help the girls fix up the Reading Room before leaving Fowler Hall. Thus the girls were saved from having to do more heavy work.

While this party was in progress the rest of Fowler Hall had migrated to one of the neighborhood theatres. From the appearance they presented when they returned, they must have enjoyed the trip and the show to the utmost. We, however, were so tired that we tumbled into bed without waiting to make sure.

All over the country everyone is looking forward with delight to the arrival of December the twenty-fifth. While we often feel that Christmas is for the children, still we must confess that when Christmas-tide draws near, there is something in the air that makes our hearts beat faster and makes us feel glad that we are alive. We often find ourselves feeling more kindly toward our fellow-men on Christmas than we usually do. Seems that we withdraw from our shell of conceit and selfishness during that season and begin to think a little more of the happiness of others. Christmas is a time of good cheer and of happiness. And, though we do feel that Christmas is a "children's day," still, feeling as we do at this moment, we cannot resist the temptation to wish you all

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

GENEVA FLORENCE.

A low-brow is a person who refuses to be bored if there's an "exit" near

the weather for the past fortnight.

A kink in his pedal extremities and speech after making an airplane dive of 10,000 feet at the Omaha air-

port. Sorry, but we haven't been able to see him or to prove it.

The I. S. D. "Hawks" football team won six out of eight games, losing only to the Kansas school and Omaha North High teams. Brundage is leading scorer of Omaha and Council Bluffs High School teams, with 80 points. On account of having no gymnasium this winter, the boys will seek diversion on an improvised skating rink on the county basketball tournament next spring.

The N. S. D. has one of the best developed basketball teams in Omaha this winter. Nick Peterson's boys ran up a score of 52 to 5 against Waterloo, Neb. They also beat the Hamilton Tires, sponsored by Z. L. Osmun, in a close-fought game. The score was 21 to 20.

HAL AND MEL.

## SEATTLE

News of the sudden death of Grand President Gibson of the N. F. S. D., came as a shock to everyone in Seattle, who knew him. Seeing him last summer on his trip to the coast had made him better known to us all. We understand his death came suddenly following an operation. He has made fine record, building up his organization till it has attained both size and strength. Thanks to his care it is now on a status, where he can be better spared than if he had been called the or fifteen years earlier.

On Thanksgiving Day, we had J. C. Howard and Miss Lillian Wenzstrom to share our turkey, and afterwards all went for a ride through the boulevards.

Lancelot Evans, who is now baching in an apartment, decided to have a home-cooked Thanksgiving dinner. He bought a cook book and a seven pound turkey, and after studying the book he proceeded to cook his bird.

He tells us the result was delicious, and by the Sunday following Thanksgiving that turkey was only a happy memory. Mr. Evans has grown one of those little sheekh moustaches, and his friends are making frank comments about it.

He says he raised it so that down at his office at the postal telegraph company they would not think he looked so much like a kid.

On November 30th, our Gallaudet Guild party was a party of progressive whist, with William La Motte in charge. Four prizes were given. Mr. Christensen won an electric cigarette lighter; Mrs. Bodley, a necklace; Mrs. Bertram, a box of handkerchiefs; and Miss Mullin, a shoulder flower. The supper served at ten-thirty had for its chief dish an Italian course of meat balls and spaghetti. This was a specialty suggested by J. C. Howard and largely prepared by him. In his shirt sleeves, adorned with a long apron and a chef's cap, he saw that the meat balls were done to a turn. The occasion was greatly enjoyed by all present.

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President, Jack M. Ebin; 1st Vice-President, Joseph Worzel; 2d Vice-President, Lester Cohen; Secretary, Nathan Schwartz; Treasurer, Samuel Lowenthal; Board of Governors, Max Lubin, Henry Peters and M. W. Loew.

B. H. S. D.

Though we meditate on serious talks and problems and endeavor to improve our minds thereby, we still enjoy fun and gayety.

The Card Party held at the H. E. S. on Sunday evening, December 8th, was such a great success that the members are contemplating another. The refreshments were sampled and enjoyed, and the prizes of mahogany candle sticks were greatly admired and treasured.

Among the prize winners were: Mrs. Glazier, Mr. Hanneman, Miss Stark, Mr. Lipkin, Mrs. Silber and others.

On Friday evening, December 27th, after the religious services, Dr. Alter Landesman, the director of the Hebrew Educational Society, will give us a very instructive sermon on "Chanukka." The following Sunday, December 29th, at 2:30 p.m., at the H. E. S., we will have our usual gala Festival and Entertainment for Chanukka. The group of children are rehearsing their pantomime and all the others on the program are polishing up their acts.

All are welcome! Men, women and children!

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hagan celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary on Saturday evening, December 21st, at the Hungarian Dining Room, 4814—13th Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Louis Hagan is a product of the American School at Hartford, Ct., and before coming to New York, to engage in the Butter and Egg business took a prominent part in the club affairs of the Connecticut deaf, and generally spends his vacation among them, as most of his schoolmates reside there. Here in New York he is more familiar known as the Butter and Egg man.

He is a Frater and also a loyal member of the Deaf-Mutes' Union League, and also has made a host of friends everywhere. Here's hoping that Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hagan will live happily always and celebrate many more anniversaries.

The Literary Committee has arranged for a "Lit" night, to be held at the Union League Hall, 143 West 125th Street, this Sunday evening, December 29th, at 8 o'clock. A small admission charge will be made. All welcome.

Several copies of Mr. Howard L. Terry's new book: "Sung in Silence," as advertised in the JOURNAL, have been sent to Mr. Marcus L. Kenner, to afford Eastern friends an opportunity to examine it.

Miss Esther Rosengren is wearing a diamond ring presented by Mr. Alfred M. Allen, to whom Miss Rosengren is engaged.

Some statistical expert might be pleased to figure the total mileage covered by Christmas cards received by Mrs. W. A. Renner. One came from Hong Kong, China, mailed November 12th. Two started from Valdez, Alaska. There were several from the States of Washington, Oregon, California and Florida, besides a large batch from more local points.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S

The Christmas Celebration at St. Francis Xavier's will be held on Sunday, December 29th. In last issue the wrong date was printed. Please note that the above date (December 29) is the correct one.

## NEW YORK

News items for this column should be sent direct to the DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL, Station M, New York.

A few words of information in a letter or postal card is sufficient. We will do the rest.

On the evening of November 30th, a surprise party of twenty people, given by Mrs. J. Friedman and Mrs. S. Paul, was held at the luncheonette in the Empire Pastry Shop, to celebrate the tenth anniversary wedding of Mr. and Mrs. I. Bloom. After lunch, all of them except Mr. S. Frankenstein went over to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bloom, who were again surprised to see more friends, his mother and sisters and her sister.

Among the deaf present were Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. I. Zwicker, Mr. and Mrs. M. Weiner, Mr. and Mrs. Polansky, Mr. and Mrs. J. Goldstein, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hyman, Mr. and Mrs. J. Friedman, Mrs. M. Rosenblatt, Miss Berthia Kranzer, Miss Zelma Bernstein, Mr. M. Schnapp, Mr. Lester Hyams, Mrs. Paul and Mr. A. Heine, the brother of Mrs. Bloom.

These guests and Mr. and Mrs. J. Zwicker and Mr. and Mrs. Seandel, who were unable to attend, presented Mr. and Mrs. Bloom with a beautiful imported 100-piece dinner set, with which they were very much pleased.

The three prize games were played and the winners were Miss Zelma Bernstein, a very pretty jewelry box; Mrs. Polansky, a box of writing paper; and Mr. M. Weiner, an ash tray.

But now it is December, and Morris has had several days of practice driving about, and his dreams now are more pleasant, so he says, and adds that he is now wedded to his car. Those who attend the N. A. D. Buffalo Convention next August will be able to see Morris and his 1930 Auburn car.

A business meeting of the H. A. D. was held at Temple Israel, 210 West 91st Street, Sunday afternoon, the 15th. Election of officers resulted as follows:

President, Marcus L. Kenner; First Vice-President, Wm. H. Plapinger; Second Vice-President, M. Schnapp; Secretary,

## Canadian News

News items for this column, and subscriptions, may be sent to Herbert W. Roberts, 278 Armadale Ave., Toronto, Ont.

### TORONTO TIDINGS

A daughter was born on the first of December to Mr. and Mrs. John Stein, nee Rosie Malinsky.

Our erstwhile young Hamilton friend, Mr. Jesse Batstone, was a guest of the Eggington family over the weekend of December 7th, and you should have seen Edna's roseate blushes.

Mrs. Alice Wheeler and family have moved from Thelma Avenue to Witmore Avenue, in the fashionable Forest Hill district and are living in a beautiful bungalow.

Mr. Harry Sloan, of Churchill, our baseball pitching ace, has just returned home from a fortnight's pleasant sojourn with relatives and friends here.

After the Sunday School service at our West-end branch December 8th, Miss Ethel Griffith was unanimously chosen as treasurer of this class to succeed the late Fred Parsons.

Mr. Melville Rourke came down from Hamilton to visit old friends over the week-end of December 7th. He is another young sport.

Ever since the death of his beloved wife, Mr. John Terrell has been almost a regular attendant at our Sunday afternoon service and our Epworth League and is getting popular.

Little Helen Frederica, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Howl, was christened at St. John's Church on Glendale Avenue, on December 1st. Godparents were Miss Mabel E. Wheeler, Mrs. C. Ray Fletcher and Mr. Herbert B. Riddell. Little Helen is a cute little mite, with all the semblance of her gifted mother (neé Frederica Wheeler.)

That customary jolly chap, Mr. Nicholas Gura, of Oshawa, was up to see his old friends once more, over the week-end of December 7th.

Mr. E. L. Warrington, a young and brilliant student, who is preparing to enter the ministry, was the speaker at our service on December 8th, and spoke very feelingly on our nearness to eternity and of our unpreparedness.

Mr. William Tate, of Hamilton, and Mr. Wilfrid Teague, of Brantford were welcome visitors to our midst over the week-end of December 7th.

With his usual smile, Mr. George Bell, of St. Thomas, dropped into our December 8th, having made a record run down from the "Railroad City" and back again that very day.

Mr. Norman Yeager, of Windsor has returned home, after a week visit among relatives and friends in this city and at Long Branch.

That the quotation in the Bible "He cometh like, a thief in the night" can be justified is seen in this sad case that brought more than a cloud of sorrow to the home of two of our well-known deaf friends. On December 2d, Mr. Frederick Webb, brother of Mrs. Chas. Rolls, retired for the night in high spirits with no thought of anything, but a peaceful slumber. Next morning his wife awoke to prepare his breakfast, leaving him, as she supposed to sleep on a little longer. When his morning meal was all set she went to his room and gently tried to make him think he might be in a stupor, as his body was still warm, and interested in the Catholic deaf mission.

On arriving immediately, the doctor simply felt his heart then looked up and said, "He's gone." Such was the Great Reaper's sudden call. The deceased was fifty-five years of age and died at 1148 Dufferin Street, and leaves a widow and two sons, one in Buffalo, N. Y., and the other at home. He was buried in Prospect Cemetery. To Mr. and Mrs. Rolls and other relatives we extend deepest sympathy.

Our Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting on December 10th, and among the matters sifted through were the following:

- Decided to install a new and large blackboard in the Bridgen-Nasmith Hall, with Business Manager Frank Moore looking after its installation. Decided to purchase a new Holy Bible for our church pulpit.

Tendered Frank Moore a vote of profound sympathy on the death of his beloved mother recently. Gave out that any one wanting S. S. quarters can have a copy for ten cents, covering a period of three months.

Gave the Welsh Society permission to use the Bridgen-Nasmith Hall, and the gymnasium on New Year's Day. Agreed to transfer the Niagara Falls Mission to the city of St. Catharines, commencing in May next.

Mr. J. R. Byrne seems to be digging up wonders that we have not heard of before in the Great Book of Books and his series of lectures on "Bible Wonders," virtually bring to light these facts and the crowds that have been turning out to these lectures are naturally feasting on more knowledge and the lecturer's clear and proper use of the signs greatly help all to understand the meanings he expounds.

Miss Ada James, of Belleville, and her sister, of St. Thomas, were in this city, on a shopping errand over the week-end of December 14th. Glad to see them again.

Mrs. S. McGinnis, a deaf and blind elderly widow, who had been living in rather strengthened circumstances in Port Credit, eighteen miles west of this city, was brought here recently and placed in the Clarkwood Institute for

the Blind, where she is being given all the comforts of life. Our Board of Trustees generously offered to take in her meagre household effects and keep it in storage in our church basement, until her affairs are finally settled. To Mr. Frank Moore is due our thanks for attending to her wants and putting her in more luxuriant quarters.

Mr. W. R. Watt is our new church superintendent for 1930, and fittingly deserves the position after patiently waiting so long. He and Frank E. Harris ran for the post at an election meeting of our church members, held on December 13th, before a fair turnout, and Mr. Watt won by a good majority. All the other members of our church Board, who were present, declined the honor. Mr. Harris is assistant superintendent. The old Board of Trustees was unanimously endorsed without election.

### WATERLOO WEE BITS

On Sunday, December 1st, Mr. and Mrs. Newton Black went down to Preston to visit Mrs. Ida Cherry Robertson, who is doing nicely.

Little Margaret Martin, the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Absolom Martin, underwent a double operation recently, having her adenoids and tonsils removed. She is progressing nicely. Her oldest sister, Barbara, who is six years old, is a wonder at the sign-language for her age. She does wonderfully well at school and with the winsome, third daughter, Winnifred, who is too cute for words, we cannot blame Mr. and Mrs. Martin for being proud of their "three little maidens" bright and gay.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Patterson, who are now nicely settled in an apartment at 45½ Grand Avenue, Galt, were visitors at the Moynihan's on December 7th, and again on Sunday, December 8th, where they were invited to dinner.

Kitchener and Waterloo deaf held a very pleasant social on Saturday evening, December 7th, in a room put at their disposal at the Kitchener and Waterloo Y. M. C. A., on corner Queen and Weber Streets in Kitchener.

Owing to the stormy weather only eleven turned out.

A very dainty supper was served at thirty-five cents a plate, and an additional ten cents was collected for the fund for the Home for the Aged and Infirm. After Christmas we anticipate gathering every Saturday, but definite plans will later be published under one heading.

Miss Mary McQueen and Mrs. Addie Clark Hamilton, both of Guelph were present and were guests of Mr. and A. Martin.

Messrs. Norman Erickmeyer and Walter Wagster, of Stratford, were also at the social.

Miss Newton Black won the only prize, donated by Mrs. J. A. Moynihan, for guessing how many marbles were heard or felt rattling in a tightly closed tin box. The prize was a dainty blue desk towel, ready stamped in a pretty design of tumblers.

Games and chatting were also the pastime events of the evening.

The Waterloo and Kitchener deaf join your reporter in very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

Mr. Gordon Meyer and his father called at the Moynihans on Sunday, December 8th. Mr. Meyer is very much attracted to his deaf son, and interested in the Catholic deaf mission. Mr. Meyer leaves at Centerville, just outside of Kitchener. His address is Kitchener, Route No. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Patterson, of Galt, now have a dandy Ford coupe and frequently motor up this way for a call on friends. Their deaf brother, Walter Patterson, who works in the same place as Lewis does, boards with them.

### GENERAL GLEANINGS

While attending the funeral of the late F. J. Gibson in Chicago, on December 17th, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Thomas, of Oakville, were pleased to meet Mr. J. T. Shilton, of Toronto, and other Canadians. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are now sojourning down in sunny Alabama for the winter.

Mr. John Taylor, of Singtonham, represents business in his shoe and harness shop as very brisk, due to the approach of winter, when sleighs and cutters replace the automobiles. The other day a huge balloon passed over John's home in its way from Detroit to Collingwood, but Jack missed seeing it, as he was busy inside.

Mrs. John W. Colclough died near Holmesville, West of Clinton, on December 10th. She was the mother of two deaf friends, Mr. Lorne Colclough, of Thorntown, and his sister, Mrs. William Thackaberry, of Holmesville.

Our old pupil of long ago, Mr. Jas. Reid, of Dundas, formerly of Hamilton, passed into the Eternal Life on December 1st. We understand his death was partly due to an attack of cancer, and he was about seventy years of age.

The Bridgen Literary Society of Toronto are in for a big treat on January 10th. When the Canadian Pacific Railway will give it a good treat of movies, embracing every country in the world over which it traverses, and will show many wonders of foreign origin. All members will be admitted free as well as outside visitors who may come, and they are cordially welcomed. City non-members will be charged fifteen cents, but this show will be worth three times this amount and will consume about two hours.

We regret to hear that Mr. Robert

H. Randall, of Paris, lost his beloved mother by death on December 10th.

Mr. Thomas E. Bissell, of Sarnia, has, owing to the closing of navigation on the St. Clair River during the winter, was laid off at the sheds of the Canada Steamship Lines in that city, and gone back to his former job at the H. Mueller Brass Co. He is glad he has a job for the winter.

We wish all your readers a very happy and prosperous season through 1930.

Mrs. W. R. Smith, of Grimsby, was injured severely in a peculiar accident on December 13th. While walking westerly on the sidewalk toward her home, a motor truck bound in the same direction skidded on the icy roadway and struck a projecting sign, which swung around and struck Mrs. Smith on the head, inflicting deep lacerations. First aid was rendered by Dr. J. H. MacMillan, and hope is held for Mrs. Smith's recovery.

The truck did not stop, but witnesses obtained the license number, which was given to the police.

Mrs. Smith was formerly the wife of the late Arthur C. Cullen, of Cobourg, both graduates of the Belleville school. At time of posting this, the reckless motorist has not been apprehended yet, though sought for by the police.

After the death of Fred Parsons, we thought the Silent Reaper had vanished from these parts, but now we find he was still lurking in our midst, and such was proven when he loomed up and snatched another good friend from us for all time in this life. This time his victim was Mrs. Riddell, widow of the late Mr. Robert Riddell, who passed peacefully beyond these shadows on Monday morning, November 25th, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. T. Parker, on Lowther Avenue, in her seventy-eighth year. Though not unexpected, in view of her failing condition, her death has cast much sorrow, for she was a very well known and highly esteemed lady, well liked by all who knew her.

Ever since the death of her second husband, on August 8th, 1925, she had not been any too well and of late had been failing rapidly, in spite of the best care given her.

The late Mrs. Riddell was formerly Miss Sarah Storey and was born in Aurora, twenty-nine miles north of this city. She was the first pupil to enter the old Hamilton School for the Deaf, at Dundurn Castle, and had the late Mrs. Euphemia Terrill as her first teacher. On graduation she married Mrs. John Moore, but though happy, their union was short lived, for Mr. Moore died over forty years ago. By this marriage, two children were born, namely, Marie (now Mrs. J. T. Parker) and Frank Moore, manager of our church. Later on Mrs. Moore married Mr. Robert R. Riddell. By this second union three children were born, Bert, Jessie (now Mrs. S. Crawford, of Buffalo) and Ross, who died during the great influenza epidemic of a few years ago. Mr. Riddell passed away four years ago.

Games and chatting were also the pastime events of the evening.

The Waterloo and Kitchener deaf join your reporter in very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

The deceased was a member of our famous Dorcas Society of yesterday and a great friend of the poor. She was a devoted member of our church, from which the funeral was held on November 27th, to Prospect Cemetery. The Rev. L. Hunter officiated, assisted by Mr. J. R. Byrne as interpreter. Mrs. Dr. Forster, of Oakville, spoke very feelingly of the deceased, as a pupil under her mother's tuition and as a highly esteemed friend. The pall-bearers were: Charles McLean, A. W. Mason, Frank Moore, his son, John Moore, Bert Riddell and S. Crawford, son-in-law. Our sympathy is extended to the bereaved ones.

### A DEPARTED HERO

In the death of the late George Andrew Irvine at Belleville, on November 17th, a notable and well-known figure ceases to shine in this life. It would take up too much of your space to give a full write-up of his worthy career, but a few lines describing the most interesting parts of his life may be very interesting, especially to the deaf who were at the Belleville school with the deceased's two deaf sisters, the late Miss Eva Irvine and Ethel Irvine, now Mrs. Andrew S. Waggoner, of Hamilton. The deceased succumbed to pneumonia after a brief illness in his forty-fifth year. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Irvine and was born in Belleville, where he was known and beloved by thousands. When the first mail delivery in that city was inaugurated in 1913, George was one of the first mail carriers and held that position until his death, and during all this time was an idol among his patrons, always discharging his duties with tact, courtesy and despatch, and gave his best with the highest conception. When the great war broke out, he promptly answered the bugle call to arms, and went overseas with the Cobourg heavy artillery. We went through this "hell of death" with all the bravery a warrior could do, and when the smoke of battle cleared from this plethora of waste and human blood, George came home unscathed, but somewhat gas smitten, and resumed his old-time duties on the postman's beaten path, serving his patrons as of yore. He was a member of Eureka Lodge, No. 283, G. R. C.—A. F. and A. M., the members of whom attended his funeral in a body, as did the veterans of the Canadian Legion, of which he was an executive.

The Bridgen Literary Society of Toronto are in for a big treat on January 10th. When the Canadian Pacific Railway will give it a good treat of movies, embracing every country in the world over which it traverses, and will show many wonders of foreign origin. All members will be admitted free as well as outside visitors who may come, and they are cordially welcomed. City non-members will be charged fifteen cents, but this show will be worth three times this amount and will consume about two hours.

During his sojourn in the trenches and on the battle field he became known as the "Little Shepherd," on

account of his marvelous influence among his comrades and the men's morale in the trenches, and efficiency of the crops in all departments was due to his influence, and it was not generally known that he was one of the heroes, who survived the famous battle of Paschendaele, in which his battery won undying honors. Besides Mrs. Waggoner, he leaves two brothers, Robert, of New York City, and John at home and one sister, Miss Jennie Irving, also at home.

HERBERT W. ROBERTS.

### Wilkinsburg, Pa.

A late report reached us recently to the effect that Floyd Wahl, of Ellwood City, was run down and killed by a speeding auto on Thanksgiving Day. There were no particulars, but it is assumed he was crossing the street at the time. Safety on the street these days is the price of eternal watchfulness as far as the deaf pedestrian is concerned. We have heard of several narrow escapes of deaf persons lately.

Wilkinsburg Division, No. 109, N. F. S. D., seems to be growing in numbers as several new members have been taken in lately. At the regular meeting December 1st, the following officers were elected: President, C. A. Painter, re-elected; Vice-President, Henry Barde; Secretary, F. A. Leitner; Treasurer, Walter Bosworth; Trustee, three years, Bernad Teitelbaum; Director, Daniel Irvin; Sergeant-at-Arms, George Lawther and Deputy, J. L. Friend.

Reports showed that the Division to be in a healthy condition.

We have to report the removal of Mr. R. N. Marshall, of Vandergrift, where he had been employed for some time past, to his old home town, Parkersburg, W. Va., where he owns property which he wishes to supervise and be with his wife's relatives in that place. We are sorry to lose these pleasant neighbors, but wish them abundant success and prosperity wherever they be.

C. A. Painter informs us that his son, Frank, has matriculated at George Washington University and has started on his course of study with every assurance of success. We certainly congratulate the young man and his parents on his fine success as a beginner and wish him abundant success in his studies.

John Smith, of Mt. Pleasant, conducted what he designated as a "Bunco game" at the W. S. C. Hall, Saturday evening, December 7th. It was a success as far as it went. Old Probs was not kind to the project and kept a good many willing patrons away, but plenty were present to make the game a pleasant affair. Among those who were successful and awarded prizes were Mrs. Roshouse, Miss Schifino, Mr. McArthur, Dick Friend, Joe Steveson, Winnifred Blackwell and others. The competition was quite lively and the game held the interest of the competitors throughout.

Wednesday, December 11th, was Boy Scout benefit night at the Edgewood school. Scout Master E. D. Read was in charge and presented quite an interesting program, which pleased a chapel-capacity audience of friends and patrons. The program included first aid demonstrations, lasso stunts, a Pilgrim play, and last, but the whole, it was a successful demonstration of Scout benefits when wisely directed, and the boys certainly showed what they were capable of.

Another benefit dance and "five hundred" was staged at the Edgewood school, Saturday evening, December 14th, to boost the Torredale Home fund. This was conducted by a committee appointed by the local branch of the P. S. A. D. and was a success in spite of the rather heavy expense of the affair. There was a large attendance, although Christmas shopping and distance kept many willing helpers away. Terpsichore claimed many devotees during the evening and many tables for "500" were occupied, while many others, including the writer, just circulated in the crowd or presented themselves as wall-flowers and conversed, so that, apparently, everybody had a good time in his or her own way. It was reported about fifty-five dollars or more was netted for the benefit, which was not so bad considering circumstances.

These affairs in the interest of the Torredale Home usually bring together quite a few from a distance, as from Ligonier, New Castle, and other places, which demonstrate the continued interest in the Home hereabouts.

Louis Pagley, of New Castle, has secured employment with the Duquesne Island Lighting and Power Company in Pittsburgh and if it be permanent he will bring his family and locate in the Northside. His business in his home town was growing too slack to suit him.

G. M. T.

Henry Harris, a deaf-mute, who is a gas-fitter, and of considerable strength, but with very gentle unless he gets excited, on Sunday, December 15th, while riding in a car, resisted being robbed of his roll, containing forty-five dollars, by two men, one being colored. A fight ensued, the car was stopped, a policeman called, and the two men and Mr. Harris were taken to the Station House.

Later in Court, after an explanation was furnished by Mr. Harris, the two men were sentenced to six months in prison,

## CHICAGO

The hearing son of the late George T. Schoolfield, a teacher of the Kentucky deaf schools, is in a hospital at Oak Park, Ill., with his face paralyzed on one side. In this condition he is unable to speak, but he talks well in the sign-language. Rev. Hasenstab went in an automobile driven by C. Sharpnack last Sunday, to see the patient, and reports his condition as being improved a little.

Misses Leona Sapinski and Loretta Blake, returning home after the close of a party held by Chicago Division No. 106, Saturday, December 14th, were held up by robbers near their home. The former was robbed of her handbag, containing a small sum of money, keys, etc., etc. The latter was not searched for money, as she carried no bag. They were dropped at a point near their home, after riding with a few deaf girls in an automobile driven by P. Dadden. They were walking toward home, when they were halted with the above result.

Charles Sharpnack's automobile, which was stolen last month, was recovered last Wednesday. He left it for a while and returned, finding it had disappeared. After reporting the theft to the police, they searched every garage and found one answering the description. Mr. Sharpnack was called to identify it, and he recognized it by its color, marks and bent bumper, as his own, except the license, which was changed.

A service, conducted by Rev. Hasenstab at the M. E. Mission, Sunday, December 15th, was well attended, followed by an interesting talk by Miss L. Sheridan, who came here

